Mikaela Gay

February 27th – March 3rd

Design Worksheet for Split Second

1. Which of the possible venues do you think would best suit the play? Circle the one you choose and explain why you think it would work best.

Proscenium

Arena

Thrust

Flexible

Proscenium would work best with this play. Just as the play Rez Sisters, this play only has two acts. With that being said, all the needed materials for every scene of the act would need to already be on stage when the act opens. The other locations pose a difficulty with the facilities mostly being smaller and more open to have many props. Also, this play utilizes many stage directions which is pretty difficult in the other theatre styles given their shapes.

2. What are some of the challenges posed by the play on the scene designer?

The scene designer would need to create flexible pieces and props. This means items that can be used in multiple scenes in many different ways. The stage is only so big and without the curtains closing, it will be rather challenging to move large props to and from the stage and not be seen or heard by the audience members. Also, the characters switch directions quite often so being able to have each area prepared for the character will be another difficulty.

3. Choose a character from the play and suggest how she/he should be dressed. In what ways do you think the costume would help accentuate his/her character.

Val would need to be wearing a very casual outfit. A simple pair of jeans and polo or button down shirt. He would never need to be wearing bright colors because he is undercover and would not need to be standing out. He should have a few outfit changes but all pretty neutral colors with black or dark jeans at all times.

4. Provide ideas about the use of light in the play.

Since there are only two acts, there will be tons of motion of stage without the curtains actually closing. This means that the lightning should be using heavy spotlights to focus the audience’s attention in one direction or the other. This will be helpful as characters are moving on and off the stage to either leave the scene or prep for the other scene that they are not distracting the current portion of the play.

5. Suggest music or sound effects that might be used to suggest the mood or atmosphere of the play and the transitions between parts of the play.

There should be a lot of mystery music. Some sort of thinking tunes because it’s a mystery what Val will actually do. Because it is something that is weighing heavily on him, he is consulting all of his family and close friends about it and doing a lot of thinking. Background music that slowly crescendos as the play progress would also be a nice addition. The music builds as the tension and anticipation increases.